

REMARKS

Claims 16-45 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 16 and 19 are amended and claim 45 is added. No new matter is added.

Further to Applicants' May 28 Amendment, claim 16 is amended to better clarify the invention. In particular, claim 16 clarifies that the elongated article is visible at least partially through the transparent part of the handle. Claim 16 also clarifies that the elongated article is a cylindrical, hollow roll that bears with its essentially cylindrical outer surface against an inner wall of the cavity. New claim 45 adds that the roll is formed by a rolled section of material.

Although not currently of record, Applicants request the Examiner to cite U.S. Patent No. 5,875,796 in a PTO-892 in the next Office Action. The '796 patent was identified by the Examiner during the May 28 personal interview. To expedite prosecution, Applicants provide the following comments and distinctions.

The '796 patent has a mechanism for dispensing messaging sheets 18. See col. 2, lines 55-58. The mechanism is located in a dispensing handle 16 consisting of two halves 70, 72. See col. 3, lines 26-28. The sheets 18 are wound around a stem 14 and form a cylindrical roll. See col. 5, lines 62-65 and Fig. 2. The purpose of such is found in col. 6, lines 25+.

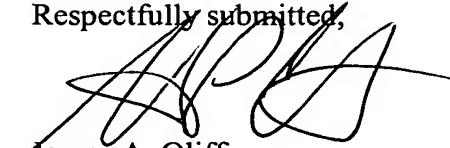
The messaging sheets 18 are not visible through the handle and are designed to be dispensed and separated. See col. 3, lines 62-67. To the contrary, the claimed elongated article in amended claim 16 remains in the handle and is visible. Also, the cavity is closed or sealed to prevent water penetration. To the contrary, the '796 patent requires an opening for dispensing. Claim 16 also recites that the roll bears on the inner wall of the cavity.

Claim 16 is believed to distinguish the '796 patent.

Favorable consideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Stephen P. Catlin
Registration No. 36,101

JAO:SPC/can

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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